

July 28, 2009

**Via Facsimile [(202) 514-2836]**

Registration Unit  
Counterespionage Section  
National Security Division  
U.S. Department of Justice  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor – Public Office  
1400 New York Avenue, N.W., Suite 100  
Washington, D.C. 20005

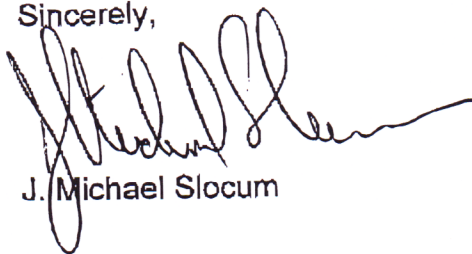
2009 JUL 29 PM 3:59  
CRM/CES/REGISTRATION UNIT

Re: Kurdistan Regional Government –  
Liaison Office-USA  
Registration No. 5783

Dear Sir or Madam:

Enclosed are two press releases dated July 28, 2009, from the above-referenced entity.

Sincerely,



J. Michael Slocum

JMS:ll  
Enclosures

mail - PRESS RELEASE: A New Benchmark in Iraq by Rep. Lincoln Davis and Rep. Joe Wilson

Among its notable feats, the Kurdish Region has rebuilt its devastated infrastructure and created a more secure environment in Iraq.

Nonetheless, our colleagues and we also know much remains to be done. The Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) has acknowledged shortcomings in governance and transparency, including the need to address corruption.

To act on its good-governance pledge, the government earlier this month announced its Good Governance and Transparency Initiative, designed in partnership with Pricewaterhouse Coopers, to review how its government works and craft an action plan to address shortcomings. We applaud government officials for their openness and urge them to act on their intent to improve their governance and transparency.

Good governance goes hand in hand with the application of the rule of law. In 2008, the Kurdistan Region's judiciary was separated from the executive and legislative branches of government to create an independent body. That judiciary is learning how to stand on its own feet, be objective and uphold the rule of law. Our government should help it in this important initiative.

There also remain challenges at a national level. Both the federal government of Iraq and the KRG must find common ground, respect their nation's constitution and seek to resolve the outstanding issues of oil revenue sharing and the potentially explosive issue of disputed territories.

It is important to note, however, that extraordinary progress has been achieved on oil production. Since the first of June, 100,000 barrels of oil per day have been produced, and revenue-sharing is occurring between the Kurdish Region and the central government in Baghdad.

The regional government, its people and the federal government of Iraq must continue to reject extremism and aid allies in seeking out and defeating terrorist threats wherever they exist. Progress on these issues will enable its friends in America to continue standing by the entire nation.

There are no shortcuts to democracy, and the road ahead for the KRG is long. It is hard work, but the destination is rewarding, and our Kurdish friends have made great strides in a relatively short time.

In the wake of the region's recent election, many -- Arab Christians and Muslims, as well as members of other groups -- already have voted with their feet by seeking shelter in the region's security. Our Congress and the administration should reflect on just how important this progress is for all Iraq and avoid actions that would impede or diminish that progress.

*Rep. Lincoln Davis, Tennessee Democrat, and Rep. Joe Wilson, South Carolina Republican, are co-chairmen of the 23-member Kurdish American Congressional Caucus.*

Online: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2009/jul/28/a-new-benchmark-in-iraq/>

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Kurdistan Regional Government